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La Perfecta Casada, por el Maestro F. LUIS DE LEON. Texto del siglo XVI. Reimpresión de la tercera edición, con variantes de la primera, y un prólogo por ELIZABETH WALLACE, miembro del cuerpo de profesores de lenguas romances de la Universidad de Chicago. The Decennial Publications, Second Series, Volume VI. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1903. 8vo., pp. xxvii + 119.

In the second series of the *Decennial Publications* of the University of Chicago there appears a very attractive volume due to the scholarly care of Miss Elizabeth Wallace. The volume in question is a reprint of that delightful little work, *La Perfecta Casada*, one of the masterpieces of Spanish literature. Its author, el Maestro Fray Luís de León, was, it will be recalled, one of the most elegant prose writers of the sixteenth century.

As every one knows, the treatise is a commentary on a certain well-known chapter (the thirty-first) of the book of Proverbs, and was directed to a lady, among Fray Luís's friends, Doña María Varela Osorio. The good old Friar loved his little book and worked over it and recast it even after it had appeared in print. He was able to give this patient care to the second and third editions, his constant preoccupation being a striving for a more harmonious and more perfect prose rhythm. Such being the case, Miss Wallace had the excellent idea of giving us a faithful reprint of this third edition, with variants from the first edition. This gives us an opportunity of studying at first hand our author's rhythmic method, and of seeing his work grow to perfection in his hands.

The text is preceded by a prologue of seventeen pages, written in Spanish, into which has been compressed a great deal of very interesting and valuable information. It opens with a few general remarks about the work, and a list of the most important editions and translations thereof. Next comes a comparison of the first and third editions from the standpoint of punctuation and orthography. This is followed by a comparison of these two editions from the standpoint of their phraseology. The prologue closes with a few pages on the prose rhythm of Fray Luís, as deduced from the comparison just made.

The following misprints have been noted :

P. xi, l. 4, Valera for Varela ; p. xxi, l. 16, ediciones for ediciones ; p. xxi, l. 22, *posseer* for *posseer* ; p. xxiii, l. 8, *eon la suerte* for *con la suerte* ; p. xxiii, l. 19, CLAUSULAS for CLÁUSULAS ; p. xxiv, l. 9, *Tertuilano* for *Tertuhiano* ; p. xxvii, l. 30, Y reurencian" for Y reuerencian".

As a critic is treading on very treacherous ground when he claims to point out misprints in a text the original of which he has not before him, it is with considerable diffidence that I call attention to the following probable errors in the new edition :

P. 7, l. 27, *desistir du* for *desistir de* ; p. 15, l. 11, *de au natural* for *de su natural* ; p. 23, l. 17, *biue su los* for *biue en los* ; p. 29, l. 9, *guarder* for *guardar* ; p. 29, l. 12, *quando viere a* for *quando viene a* ; p. 43, l. 2, *El se* for *El es* ; p. 50, l. 17, *y cotejo,* for *y coteja* ; p. 54, l. 8-9, *a todas los* for *a todos los* ; p. 56, l. 2, *sin sentir. y* for *sin sentir, y* ; p. 56, l. 5, *diziendo. for* *diziendo :* ; p. 58, l. 28, *siempre, no ha* for *siempre no ha* ; p. 60, l. 12, *de todos, for* *de todos.* ; p. 60, l. 18-19, *los si-ruen* for *los sir-uen* ; p. 63, l. 4, *porque venida, la noche* for *porque, venida la noche* ; p. 65, l. 2-3, *ya no con-ozca* for *ya no co-nozca* ; p. 68, l. 1, *Annque* for *Aunque* ; p. 84, l. 34, *a es ver . . . o el oyr* for *o es ver . . . o es oyr* ; p. 86, Title, CASAKA for CASADA ; p. 90, l. 41, *lo onza* for *la onza* ; p. 101, l. 23, *vergonçoso. for* *vergonçoso,* ; p. 115, l. 15, *sonarar* for *sonaran.*

In spite of this list of suggestions (and even in case each suggestion should prove to be correct—the majority of the cases being what our German colleagues would call “nicht störende Druckfehler”), it is evident that Miss Wallace has done her work with care and affection ; and all Spanish scholars must rejoice that it is at last possible to read, in a form that is worthy of it, this brilliant gem of an age that is gone.

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